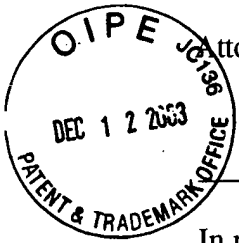


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2877

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Patent



Attorney Docket # 5267-23

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Masahiro TSUCHIDA et al.

Serial No.: 10/099,712

Filed: March 14, 2002

For: Optical Connector

Examiner: Mooney, Michael P.
Group Art: 2877

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

S I R:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed form PTO/SB/08A. Copies of the listed documents are also enclosed.

This information is being submitted subsequent to the later of three months after the filing date of the present application or the mailing of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing of a final Action or the Notice of Allowance.

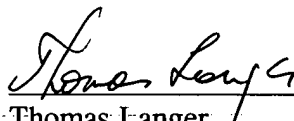
STATEMENT

Each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication received from the Japanese Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement. A copy of the Japanese Office Action is enclosed.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R §§1.97(g) and (h), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made or that information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in §1.56(b), or that any cited document listed or attached is (or constitutes) prior art. Unless otherwise indicated, the date of publication indicated for an item is taken from the face of the item and Applicants reserve the right to prove that the date of publication is in fact different.

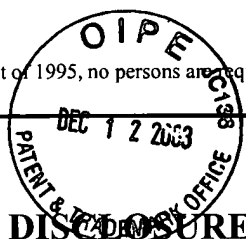
It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed form PTO/SB/08A be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Respectfully submitted,
COHEN, PONTANI, LIEBERMAN & PAVANE

By: 
Thomas Langer
Reg. No. 27,264
551 Fifth Avenue, Suite 1210
New York, New York 10176
(212) 687-2770

Dated: December 12, 2003

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Substitute for Form 1449/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 1

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/099,712
Filing Date	March 14, 2002
First Named Inventor	Masahiro TSUCHIDA
Art Unit	2877
Examiner Name	Mooney, Michael P.
Attorney Docket Number	5267-23

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind-Code ² (if known)			
		US-			
		US-			
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

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		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind-Code ⁵ (if known)				
		JP 2001-33659	02/09/2001	Japan Aviation Electronics Ltd.		Abstact

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

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